

readiness. General Krulak not only pursued making better Marines, capable of winning our Nation's future battles, but also to make better Americans. He promoted a focus on character development and high ethical and moral standards. He stressed core values of honor, courage, and commitment as a way of life in the Corps. They are attributes that will serve them well, long after they have hung up their uniforms.

A key contributor to the Marine Corps family and a person General Krulak owes much success to is his wife, Sandy Krulak. She gave dignity and grace to the maturation of the Marine Corps family. She has devoted her life to her husband and to the Corps. Her sacrifice and devotion has served as an example and inspiration for others. Later this month the Corps will lose not one, but two very exceptional people.

In closing I want to recognize General Krulak for his uncompromising integrity to always do the right thing, for the Nation and his beloved Corps. His unwavering conviction that "Semper Fidelis" is a way of life, not just a motto, speaks powerfully to the citizens he serves. It has been my good fortune—it has been the House good fortune—to witness the resolve of a person who believes so strongly about the institution to which he serves. Now, to some that might seem old fashioned and out-of-step with societies norms today, but to General Krulak it is the life and blood that sustains the Corps. He fought hard to address readiness and modernization issues before the Senate Armed Services Committee when it was not always popular to do so. He challenged the logic and assertion by many of the benefits concerning integrated training during indoctrination into the military. Today, the Corps is meeting its recruiting requirements, forty-eight months consecutively and achieved its retention goals—a testimony to the wisdom and foresight of General Krulak.

General Krulak, the Marine Corps is a better institution today than it was four years ago. Your sacrifice and devotion to duty have made it so. You have provided a significant and lasting contribution to your Corps and to this Nation's security. Through your stewardship there is a renewed sense of esprit de corps. Those who follow your example will be a testament to the legacy you leave behind.

I want to wish you and your family fair winds and following seas as you step down as the 31st Commandant of the Marine Corps. Your distinguished and faithful service to our country is greatly appreciated. You will be sorely missed, but surely not forgotten.

LEGISLATION FOR THE PEOPLE OF BIKINI ATOLL

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today to assist in the resettlement and relocation of the people of Bikini Atoll by amending the terms of the trust fund established during the United States administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. This will permit the people of Bikini to use a portion of their fund for resettlement activities for the remaining 90 seniors who were

affected by United States nuclear testing in the Marshall Islands without any additional federal expenditure and consistent with the intent of Congress. These individuals are still waiting to resettle after over five decades since the U.S. program began in their islands which resulted in their removal from their home atoll.

At the Committee on Resources' May 11th hearing on the status of nuclear claims, relocation and resettlement efforts in the Marshall Islands, and as part of the May 10th Congressional pre-hearing briefing, the people of Bikini asked Congress to support a one-time 3 percent distribution from the Resettlement Trust Fund, which is used both for the cleanup of Bikini and for the ongoing needs of the Bikini people. Congress established this trust fund in 1982 pursuant to P.L. 97-257 and appropriated additional funds in 1988 pursuant to P.L. 100-446.

The Bikini people have explained that Dr. John Mauro and his team are preparing a report on the potential radiation doses and health risks to the people of Bikini and costs associated with various remediation options, which should be completed within three months. The exact cost has not yet been established, but it is estimated that the entire cleanup and resettlement process, from planning through execution, will take approximately ten years. As a result, it is certain that the Bikini elders, many of whom have not been back on their home islands for more than 53 years, will probably die on Kili without returning home.

The Bikinians, for their part, have ensured the fiscal integrity of the Resettlement Trust Fund. They have selected reputable U.S. banks as trustees, hired well-respected and talented investment advisors and money managers, and provided for routine monthly financial statements and annual audits. Thanks to the money managers and the Bikini Council's voluntary restraint on the use of these funds, the corpus remains intact, the trust fund has earned almost 14 percent annually, every dollar has been accounted for, annual audits are prepared, and monthly financial statements are sent to the Interior Department's Office of Insular Affairs.

In light of the strength of the trust, its fiscal integrity, the lengthy time a cleanup and restoration will take, and the special circumstances of the elders, the Bikinians wish to make a one-time 3 percent distribution from the Resettlement Trust Fund, with the understanding that the primary beneficiaries of the distribution will be the 90 surviving Bikini elders. Because of the excellent management of the trust fund, such a distribution will not require an appropriation of funds by Congress, nor will it diminish the original corpus of the trust. The Bikini people would also agree that the amount of such distribution be deducted from any further additional ex gratia appropriations made by the Congress into the Resettlement Trust Fund.

The corpus will remain intact with a 3 percent distribution. The original corpus of the trust was \$110 million, based on the \$20 million appropriated in 1982 and the additional \$90 million in 1988. The market value of the trust today is approximately \$126 million, so a 3 percent distribution, or approximately \$3,780,000, will reduce the market value to \$122.2 million, which remains well above the original corpus.

This authorization to the people of Bikini is appropriate as it is what the community of Bikini desires and it is consistent with congressional intent for the resettlement of the people whose lives and homes were disrupted by U.S. testing. Without any additional cost to the U.S. taxpayer, Congress can help the remaining senior Bikini elders' resettlement and relocation.

Following is a copy of the Kili/Bikini/Ejit Local Government Council's May 12, 1999 Resolution on this matter, reflecting the full support of the Bikini community.

KILI/BIKINI/EJIT LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL:
KILI/BIKINI/EJIT LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION No. 2-1999

A RESOLUTION

This Resolution requests a one-time three percent (3%) distribution from the existing corpus of the Resettlement Trust Fund for the People of Bikini to benefit primarily the Bikini elders and to request appropriate U.S. Senate and House committees to hold hearings to determine the appropriateness of such request, the status of cleanup efforts at Bikini, current estimates of cleanup and restoration costs, questions concerning the guarantee of Bikini Atoll's safety and other appropriate issues.

Whereas, the Resettlement Trust Fund for the People of Bikini ("Resettlement Trust Fund") was established by the U.S. Congress in 1982 pursuant to the terms of Public Law No. 97-257, for "the relocation and resettlement of the Bikini people in the Marshall Islands, principally on Kili and Ejit Islands;" and

Whereas, Public Law No. 97-257 also instructed that \$3,000,000 of the Resettlement Trust Fund was to be made available ex gratia to the people of Bikini over a three-year period; and

Whereas, the U.S. Congress appropriated additional funds for the Resettlement Trust Fund in 1988 and modified its terms to provide that funds could also be "expended for rehabilitation and resettlement of Bikini Atoll;" and

Whereas, the people of Bikini have ensured the fiscal integrity of the Resettlement Trust Fund by (1) selecting reputable banks as trustees (American Security Bank and now FMB Trust), (2) hiring well-respected investment advisors (such as Alex, Brown and PaineWebber) and money managers (such as MFS, Gabelli, Fiduciary Trust, etc.), and (3) directing that every dollar of Resettlement Trust Fund expenditures be audited and that monthly financial statements and annual audits be routinely provided to the Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, which oversees the Resettlement Trust Fund; and

Whereas, the Resettlement Trust Fund has averaged a 14% annual return since inception; and

Whereas, the Resettlement Trust Fund has paid out millions of dollars since inception for scholarships, health care, food programs, housing and electrical power construction, maintenance and repairs on Kili and Ejit, and infrastructure, cleanup and resettlement activities on Bikini Atoll; and

Whereas, through prudent management and voluntary restrictions on the use of Resettlement Trust Fund monies, the market value of the Resettlement Trust Fund today is approximately \$126,000,000; and

Whereas, recently disclosed information previously withheld by the U.S. government reveals that the physical and radiological damage to Bikini Atoll caused by the U.S. nuclear testing program was more extensive than was or could have been known by the people of Bikini until the disclosure of such information; and

Whereas, the people of Bikini have recently learned from well-respected scientists who have conducted extensive radiological cleanup cost estimates for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that the restoration costs for cleanup and resettlement of Bikini Atoll will exceed several hundred million dollars; and

Whereas, this means that many Bikini elders, who have not been back on their home islands for 53 years, will probably die without returning home; and

Whereas, of the 167 of our elders who were moved off our islands in 1946, fewer than 90 are still alive; and

Whereas, most of these elders live on Kili, an island one-ninth the size of Bikini Atoll which must support six times the number of people who lived on Bikini; and

Whereas, we wish to compensate these elders with a one-time 3% distribution from the corpus of the Resettlement Trust Fund; and

Whereas, unlike people living on other atolls in the Marshall Islands, our people on Kili cannot fish because Kili has no lagoon and no reef, thus requiring our community to supplement our U.S.D.A. food by purchasing other canned goods at great expense; and

Whereas, a one-time 3% distribution from the Resettlement Trust Fund will not require an appropriation of any funds by the U.S. Congress; and

Whereas, given the good management of the Resettlement Trust Fund a 3% distribution would not diminish the original corpus of the trust fund; and

Whereas, Congress has previously authorized ex gratia per capita payments from the Resettlement Trust Fund; and

Whereas, the House Resources Committee (formerly the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs) has held many oversight hearings on Bikini-related issues during the past 25 years, covering such issues as health care, education, agricultural and food programs, establishment and oversight of ex gratia trust funds for the Bikini people, Bikini Atoll cleanup, Compact of Free Association Section 177 Agreement cover-up of the 1954 Bravo shot, and vaporization of islands at Bikini;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that: (1) The Council requests a one-time only 3% distribution from the existing corpus of the Resettlement Trust Fund, with the understanding that the primary beneficiaries of this distribution will be the Bikini elders.

(2) The Council agrees that the amount of such distribution shall be deducted from any future additional ex gratia payments made by the U.S. Congress into the Resettlement Trust Fund.

(3) Legal counsel Jonathan M. Weisgall is instructed to forward a copy of this Resolution to Allen P. Stayman, Director, Office of Insular Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior; Senator Frank Murkowski, Chairman, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee; and Representative Don Young, Chairman, House Resources Committee, and to urge these Senate and House Committees to hold hearings, as necessary, to determine the appropriateness of the above request and to obtain information concerning the status of cleanup efforts at Bikini Atoll, current estimates of cleanup and restoration costs, questions concerning the guarantee of Bikini Atoll's safety, and other appropriate issues.

Final and passed by the KILI/BIKINI/EJIT LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL on the 12th day of March, 1999, at a meeting on Kili Island.

APPROVED:

TOMAKI JUDA,
Mayor

Witness: Nathn Note, Clerk

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
SUSIE MUSHATT JONES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the rich and full life of Susie Mushatt Jones as she celebrates her 100th birthday on July 6, 1999. Mrs. Jones is from the first generation of African-Americans after the abolition of slavery. In the life of Mrs. Jones, she had the opportunity to witness many pivotal events in history. She is a source of history that we need in our community. The experiences of Mrs. Jones can help us better understand the world we live in. She has experienced the great depression, two world wars, the Harlem Renaissance, the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's, and many more historical events. She has helped to build the foundation of our community. Mrs. Jones has positively influenced the lives of family and friends from her advice and assistance.

The life of Mrs. Jones must be acknowledged because she has advice on how to live a full and long life. Seniors, such as Mrs. Jones, act as pillars in our community. People in our community need to follow in her "foot steps" because Mrs. Jones has accomplished something that many people dream of achieving. The resounding strength of Mrs. Jones will continue to permeate in the lives of the people that surround her.

We pray that God will continue to bless Mrs. Jones.

COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) was created by Congress in 1977 to encourage federally insured financial institutions to help meet the credit needs of the communities they serve. Fair and equal access to capital and credit should be a fundamental right, yet for too long it has been a privilege based on race or economic class. By any measure, the CRA has been a success in creating jobs, businesses, affordable housing and homeownership in minority and poor neighborhoods.

In my home county of Lorain, OH, the FirstMerit Bank challenge under CRA garnered over a \$20 million commitment from FirstMerit for mortgage lending in low and moderate income tracts. More importantly, the FirstMerit challenge started the Community Development initiative in earnest and led to a \$33 million commitment from local public officials, banks and foundations on a community based development system for the county.

Blatant discrimination in lending is declining and homeownership and small business opportunities are on the rise. We can attribute much of this progress to the Community Reinvestment Act. CRA has proven that working together with local leaders, advocacy organizations, and financial institutions, we can make local investment not only good for busi-

ness, but good for improving the quality of life for low and moderate income residents in our communities. Let's continue to make the American dream a reality for more Americans.

**"A SALUTE TO THE MILITARY" IN
HONOR OF THE UNITED STATES
MARINE CORPS, EL TORO, CALI-
FORNIA**

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, on November 10, 1775, the Continental Congress met in Philadelphia, passing a resolution that "two battalions of Marines be raised" for service as landing forces with the fleet. This resolution, sponsored by John Adams, established the Continental Marines and marked the birth of the United States Marine Corps.

From that time forward, and throughout the history of the United States of America, the Marines have proven themselves to be among the bravest and most heroic divisions of the military. The Marines have fought valiantly in the American Revolution, the Battle of 1812, the Mexican War (1846-1848), the Civil War (1861-1865), the Spanish American War (1898), World War I, World War II, and the Gulf War. They have fought from "the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli" to keep our nation free.

El Toro was commissioned as a Marine Corps Air Station in March of 1943. The base was used as a staging area and training facility for the battle with the Japanese in the Pacific. Built on a bean field, the first Marines were housed in bean barracks until the new barracks were constructed. From that point forward, Marine troops poured into the base and soon the first squadrons were formed, flying operational missions into combat in the South Pacific.

Just as the war in the Pacific ended, Congress threatened to close the base. However, with new conflicts beginning in Korea, the base was kept open. At this time it became apparent that a Western base was definitely needed on the Pacific Coast. After the Korean War, the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing was moved from Florida to El Toro. The base was expanded to accommodate the increasing military expansion. With Vietnam, El Toro again became a training, staging, and debarkation point for the Marines.

In 1975, Vietnamese refugees were flown into the base, before being sent to refugee camps in Camp Pendleton. And, in 1983, El Toro received the F/A-18 Hornet, the most advanced fighter-attack aircraft in Naval history. By now the base has grown from the original 2,300 acres and 30 Marines to 4,700 acres and 15,000 personnel.

In the 1990's, the Marines were called into action during Operation Desert Storm and Operation Desert Shield. After America's victory in the Persian Gulf, the Department of Defense embarked on an initiative to restructure and realign America's military and as a result, El Toro was recommended for closure.

El Toro Marine Base, which has played a most significant and important part of history, will now become part of history. As we bid farewell to the men and women who have so